



Notice - Updates to Nursing Homes

(October 27, 2020)

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) advises all nursing homes of the following:

- Pursuant to Maryland Department of Health Amended Directive and Order Regarding Nursing Home Matters, No. MDH 2020-10-XX-01, nursing homes shall have in place a Crisis Response Plan, which will include the facility's process for maintaining appropriate staffing levels when a COVID-19 outbreak is detected at the nursing home. Nursing homes are strongly encouraged to enter into, confirm, or supplement any existing staffing agreements through private staffing agencies and/or mutual aid agreements with other long-term care facilities. If technical assistance is requested, please notify MDH immediately via its technical assistance teams.
- Pursuant to MD HEALTH GEN § 18-404 and COMAR 10.07.02.34(E), nursing home staff are required to receive an annual seasonal influenza vaccination, unless excused by § 18-404(e) and COMAR 10.07.02.34(E)(1)(a)-(c). All nursing homes are advised that all staff, to the extent possible, should be vaccinated against influenza by December 31, 2020.

This Notice is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until it is revised or until the state of emergency has been terminated and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded.

Robert R. Neall
Secretary